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ROWLAND MARCUS ANDRADE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ROWLAND MARCUS ANDRADE,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:20-CR-00249-RS-01 (LB)

**DEFENDANT'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPLY  
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF HIS  
MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY**

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## INTRODUCTION

Stripped of its disparaging remarks,<sup>1</sup> the Government’s Supplemental Opposition (“Govt. Supp. Opp.” or “docket #158”) rests primarily on the government’s erroneous view that the only discovery that it can be compelled to produce is that which would “substantially alter the quantum of proof in [the defendant’s] favor”<sup>2</sup> – as if only smoking guns are covered by Rule 16 and *Brady*. Whether or not this may have been the law when *United States v. Marshall*, 532 F.2d 1279, 1284-85 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1976) was decided, given changes in Rule 16 and subsequent decisions, it is not the law today. Nor is it a realistic perspective on how defenses are built, especially in cases with an alleged co-schemer who is an experienced fraudster like Jack Abramoff. In such cases, defenses are often developed from subtler, yet enlightening clues.

To justify discovery, the Ninth Circuit now has a “low threshold” that can be met if, among other things, the requested information will help the preparation of the defense or steer counsel away from lines of defense. When applied to the rationales provided by Mr. Andrade for his discovery requests, these standards leave no doubt that the Court should order the government to produce the five remaining categories of discovery relating to Butina, Erickson, and Levin.

## ARGUMENT

### **A. Under The Applicable Standards, Mr. Andrade Is Entitled to the Requested Discovery**

This Court’s minute order of March 20 requested “a standalone articulation of the standard that applies,” and noted that “the defendant called out the government’s reliance on an outdated Rule 16 standard.” The parties did meet and confer on these issues as requested by the Court, but they were unable to reach an agreement.

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Govt. Supp. Opp Exhibit 158. at 6:21 (“fantastical”); 7:1 (“ludicrous”); 7:6 (“transparently absurd”); 7:7 (plain old “absurd”). The Supplemental Opposition does not explain the difference between regular “absurd” and “transparently absurd.” The government used similar adjectives for ten months to justify its refusal to produce the Butina documents, which when produced turned out to advance a core part of a potential defense.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 2:7.

1       **Rule 16.** “The relevant section of Rule 16 is written in categorical terms: Upon the  
 2 defendant’s request, the government must disclose any documents or other objects within its  
 3 possession, custody or control that are ‘material to preparing the defense.’ Fed. R. Crim. P.  
 4 16(a)(1)(E)(i).” *United States v. Hernandez–Meza*, 720 F.3d 760, 768 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2013). It is  
 5 beyond dispute that materiality is a “low threshold,” *Id.*, and “not a heavy burden.” *United States*  
 6 *v. Lloyd*, 992 F.2d 348, 351 (D.C. Cir. 1993).

7       Not acknowledging these principles, the government insists that discovery is limited to  
 8 information “substantially alter[ing] the quantum of proof in [the defendant’s] favor.” But the  
 9 case on which the government relies was decided nearly a half century ago, applies a standard  
 10 that, at best for the government, is no longer complete, and more recent cases go well beyond its  
 11 limited definition of materiality. *See United States v. Marshall*, 532 F.2d 1279, 1284-85 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir.  
 12 1976) (interpreting the then-relevant provision, Rule 16(b)).<sup>3</sup> Under Rule 16(b) at that time, a  
 13 court could Order the government to permit the defendant to inspect and copy documents and  
 14 other tangible items within the possession, custody, or control of the government, upon a  
 15 showing of “materiality to the preparation of his defense *and that the request is reasonable.*”  
 16 *Marshall*, 532 F.2d at 1284 (quoting Fed. R. Crim. P, 16(b)).

17       The *Marshall* Court’s interpretation of what the former rule required was based on the  
 18 component of the rule that instructed the court to judge reasonableness, a component that was  
 19 removed from Rule 16 when the current rule -- Rule 16(a)(1)(E)(i) -- was implemented. Since  
 20 *Marshall* was decided and Rule 16 was amended, the materiality standard has been expanded  
 21 and made easier to satisfy -- and understandably so, given the challenges of proving, as the  
 22 government would have it, that a document the defense by definition has not yet seen<sup>4</sup> “would  
 23  
 24

25 <sup>3</sup> *Marshall* not only interpreted a former version of Rule 16 discovery, but also is inapposite because it involved a  
 26 discovery request that sought to provide the defendant “his only opportunity to effectively impeach the  
 government’s main witness” and thus did not involve the question whether the request was material to the  
 preparation of the defendant’s case-in-chief. *Marshall*, 532 F.2d at 1284.

27 <sup>4</sup> Because the defendants often are unable to “know with certainty what information the government has,” courts  
 28 should strongly encourage liberal discovery. *United States v. Jensen*, 608 F.2d 1349, 1357 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1979).

1 substantially alter the quantum of proof in his favor.” *See United States v. Marshall*, 132 F.3d 63,  
2 68 (D.C. Cir. 1998).

3 Now, far from being limited to “evidence that must ‘enable the accused to substantially  
4 alter the quantum of proof in his favor,’” it is sufficient if the requested information is “relevant  
5 to the development of a possible defense,” (as the government acknowledges elsewhere in its  
6 Supplemental Opposition, docket # 158 at 2:3, citing *United States v. Mandel*, 914 F.2d 1215,  
7 1219 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1990)), or if there is a strong indication that the requested information will play an  
8 important role in uncovering admissible evidence, aiding witness preparation, corroborating  
9 testimony, or assisting impeachment or rebuttal, *Lloyd*, 992 F.2d at 351, or “even if it simply  
10 causes a defendant to completely abandon a planned defense and take an entirely different path.”  
11 *Hernandez–Meza*, 720 F.3d at 768.

12 Express language in *Hernandez-Meza* eviscerates the government’s claim that the case  
13 does not “directly address[] the standard applicable to requests for discovery under Rule 16.”  
14 Gov’t Supp. Opp., docket # 158 at 2:17. The *Hernandez-Meza* opinion begins by stating that  
15 “we consider a number of questions in this criminal appeal, including the government’s  
16 discovery obligations under Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 16.” *Hernandez-Meza*, 720 F.3d  
17 at 762. It then applies the materiality standard; holds that a document should have been produced  
18 to the defense because it was material, and because, had the document been produced, the  
19 defendant may have changed his defense; *id.* at 768; and vacates the defendant’s conviction. *Id.*  
20 at 769.

21 Numerous subsequent Ninth Circuit cases rely on *Hernandez-Meza*, and permit discovery  
22 even if the defendant cannot show that the evidence would substantially alter trial proof in their  
23 favor. *See, e.g., United States v. Soto-Zuniga*, 837 F.3d 992, 1002-03 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2016) (holding  
24 that district court abused its discretion in denying discovery into the primary purpose of a  
25 checkpoint that led to the defendant’s arrest because he “should not have [had] to rely solely on  
26 the government’s word that further discovery [was] unnecessary,” and that the district court also  
27 abused its discretion in denying discovery of government records of an investigation of a  
28

1 different person, which “might” help the defendant identify passengers in his car, who “might  
 2 then” provide testimony about whether anyone placed drugs in the defendant’s car, or “might  
 3 potentially” help identify potential wrongdoers and “either support or contradict” the defense).  
 4 *See also United States v. Swenson*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 126957 at 5 (D. Idaho 2013)  
 5 (inculpatory evidence is discoverable because it may alter trial strategy or encourage the  
 6 defendant to seek a plea deal).

7 None of the government’s post-*Marshall* citations undermine the broader standard  
 8 applied since *Hernandez-Meza*. Two of the three cases cited by the government were decided  
 9 before the *Hernandez-Meza* decision, and even they are consistent with its principles.<sup>5</sup> The third,  
 10 *United States v. Stone*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 122066 at 6, 2013 WL 4541513 (E.D. Cal. 2013)  
 11 – decided just after *Hernandez-Meza* -- confirms the error of the government’s continued  
 12 insistence that the only standard of relevance is that the requested discovery must “substantially  
 13 alter the quantum of proof in [the defendant’s] favor.” *Stone* did cite that language, but  
 14 immediately added to it the much broader language “or be relevant to the development of a  
 15 possible defense” (emphasis added). *Id.*, citing *Mandel*, 914 F.2d at 1219. This also eviscerates  
 16 the government’s attempted rescue of its position by claiming that *Marshall* has not yet been  
 17 overruled; it confirms that additional ways to satisfy the materiality standard have been tacked on  
 18 to the language from *Marshall*. As a result, the government’s suggestion that *Marshall alone*  
 19 states the applicable standard for materiality is wrong.

20 The government concludes by reporting that “mere declarations that desired material is  
 21 ‘material’ is insufficient,” that “courts must apply some scrutiny in order to avoid immaterial  
 22 discovery becoming a distraction at trial,” and that general descriptions of the information sought  
 23

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24 <sup>5</sup> See Govt. Supp. Opp. at 2:13-16. In *United States v. DeJarnette*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 30181, 2011 WL 838898  
 25 (N.D. Cal. March 4, 2011), a defense discovery request was granted under the *Marshall* standard when  
 26 communications between defendant and federal authorities, or between federal and state authorities, might lead to  
 27 favorable evidence supporting defense related to defendant’s scienter in sex-registration case. Quoting both  
 28 *Marshall* and *Mandel*, *United States v. Alas*, 2009 WL 504687 (D. Ariz. Feb. 27, 2009) demonstrates that the later-  
 established *Hernandez-Meza* standard was not new. “The information that the government must disclose need not  
 be exculpatory; it merely must be material to the preparation of the defense.” *Atlas* at LEXIS 16 [records relevant to  
 the state of mind of the defendant ordered disclosed under Rule 16, *id.* at 20-21].

1 or conclusory allegations of materiality are insufficient. Docket # 158 at 2:20-22. After well  
 2 over 100 pages of briefing and declarations, and at least five hours of meeting-and-conferring,  
 3 nearly all of which has been devoted to explaining the materiality of the requested information,  
 4 not to mention considerable effort by the Court to review that mass of information, the best that  
 5 can be said about the government's assertion is that it must have been misplaced from another  
 6 brief.

7 **Brady.** Mr. Andrade is also entitled to the discovery he seeks based on *Brady*. There is  
 8 no dispute that the governing standard is set forth in *Kyles v. Whitley*, 514 U.S. 419, 440 (1995)  
 9 and that *Brady* should be interpreted liberally on the side of disclosure.<sup>6</sup>

11 **B. The Court Should Order the Government to Produce All of Mr. Andrade's**  
 12 **Specific Requests**

13 **1. Non-privileged items from Abramoff's phone should be produced**

14 The government's opposition to Mr. Andrade's request for non-privileged items from  
 15 Abramoff's phone begins by referring to the issue of "*privileged* materials on Abramoff's mobile  
 16 device," and accusing defense counsel of preferring that the government's privilege filter "be  
 17 done differently." Docket # 158 at 4:22-24 (emphasis added). These characterizations  
 18 conveniently omit the government's admission that "there are likely numerous communications  
 19 on Abramoff's phone" that it is not producing, even though they are "*not* privileged."<sup>7</sup>

20 ///

21 ///

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23 <sup>6</sup> The Supplemental Opposition does not address Mr. Andrade's citations to *United States v. Lloyd*, 992 F.2d 348,  
 24 351(D.C. Cir. 1993) and *United States v. Lov-It Creamery, Inc.*, 704 F. Supp. 1532, 1553 (E.D. Wis. 1989). In  
 25 meet-and-confers, the government dismissed these cases merely because they are not binding, but they are consistent  
 26 with *Soto-Zuniga*, 837 F.3d at 1002-1003: all hold that something that might be helpful defense preparation must be  
 27 produced. *See also Amado v. Gonzalez*, 758 F.3d 1119, 1136 (9th Cir. 2014) ("The prosecutor must presume in  
 28 favor of disclosure, and resolve his doubts about the exculpatory nature of a document in favor of producing it");  
*Williams v. Ryan*, 623 F.3d 1258, 1268 (9th Cir. 2010) ("The Supreme Court [in *Kyles*] has explained that a  
 prosecutor who has any doubt about the materiality of a piece of evidence favorable to the defendant should disclose  
 the evidence").

<sup>7</sup> Opposition to Motion to Compel, Dkt. #124 at 10:21-23 (emphasis added).

1 Currently before the Court is whether it should require the government to produce non-  
 2 privileged communications between Abramoff and his brother Robert.<sup>8</sup> In its Supplemental  
 3 Opposition— without ever exactly coming out and saying so— the government appears to  
 4 suggest that it can toss out many non-privileged documents with any privileged ones on the  
 5 ground that none of Abramoff’s communications with his brother Robert could possibly be  
 6 material to preparing the defense. That is incorrect. Although the Supplemental Opposition  
 7 suggests that Robert Abramoff had only a “tangential relationship to corporate entities related to  
 8 this case,” Docket # 158 at 5:6-7, FBI reports prove the contrary. Among other things:

- 9
- 10 ○ Robert “took over Blockchain Entertainment project,” serving as a producer rather than  
 an attorney. *See* Exhibit 46 at FBI-302-001747.
- 11 ○ Robert assisted Abramoff’s deception by receiving fees intended for Abramoff. *See*  
 12 Exhibit 47, at 005421-005422; Exhibit 49 at FBI-MAIN-0003898.
- 13 ○ Robert appeared to serve in a management capacity for Landfair Capital (Abramoff’s  
 14 company that he used to collect the money from various fraudulent scheme and also used  
 to pay employees of Mr. Andrade’s company). *See* Exhibit 48, at 3778-3780.
- 15 ○ Far from seeing Robert Abramoff as irrelevant, the government has already produced at  
 16 least four of his personal bank account statements, two of his law firms’ banks  
 17 statements, his IRA account statements, and his credit card statements.

18 As a result, Robert Abramoff is not “tangential” to corporate entities at the heart of the  
 19 defense; it is likely that he engaged in many communications that could not have been  
 20 privileged; and the government has provided defense counsel with no evidence that Robert  
 21 Abramoff ever served as his brother’s lawyer. Rule 16 and *Brady* do not allow the government  
 22 to withhold information material to the defense on the ground that identifying it would “compel  
 23 the expenditure of governmental resources in a privilege review,” Supplemental Opposition,  
 24

25 <sup>8</sup> As set forth in Mr. Andrade’s Supplemental Memorandum, on March 8, 2023, the government identified one law  
 26 firm and two lawyers whose names were searched, and all communications that involved or referenced the names  
 27 were removed from Abramoff’s Cellebrite. The searched terms were “Arent Fox LLP,” “Peter Zeidenberg,” or  
 “Robert Abramoff.” In an effort to compromise and move the discovery process forward, defense counsel proposed  
 28 that *for now*, and without prejudice to raising the Arent Fox and Zeidenberg issues later, a taint team could be used  
 to review only the messages that contain the search term “Robert Abramoff.”



1 Docket # 158 at 5:3-4, or on the ground that it has produced a large volume of other materials.  
 2 Docket # 158 at 5:10-12. The government does not identify any other source of information  
 3 available to the defense that would duplicate Abramoff's communications with his brother  
 4 Robert. At a minimum, those communications should be reviewed by a taint team to determine  
 5 what information must be produced.

## 6 **2. Levin's Devices Should Be Produced Without an Attorney's Eyes Only** 7 **Provision**

8 Likely fueled by its erroneously narrow view of Rule 16 and *Brady*, the government  
 9 asserts that "[d]efendant has never articulated how Levin's records *not* involving Abramoff are  
 10 material." Docket # 158 at 5:24-25, and that it is "mystified by Mr. Andrade's attention to the  
 11 Butina documents. *Id.* at 4:8.<sup>9</sup> Mr. Andrade has already explained that a potential defense is that  
 12 Abramoff rather than Mr. Andrade orchestrated the alleged wrongdoing, and that Abramoff did  
 13 so to further his own interests that were not aligned with those of Mr. Andrade. Among other  
 14 things, the Butina documents and other evidence collected to date about Levin lend support to  
 15 the proposition that Abramoff, with Butina, Erickson, Levin and others, were working to de-  
 16 regulate cryptocurrency<sup>10</sup>-- the opposite of Mr. Andrade's strategy, which was to make AML  
 17 Bitcoin the one cryptocurrency that could be compliant with regulations. To develop this  
 18 defense, Mr. Andrade needs to learn the motives of Abramoff and those working with him (like  
 19 Butina, Erickson and Levin) -- to know, among other things, what they were doing and why that  
 20 led them to act in ways contrary to the interests of Mr. Andrade's business. The Supplemental  
 21 Opposition briefly flails at suggesting this defense (and the resulting need for discovery) is  
 22 unsupported or insufficient, but these suggestions go nowhere.

23 Without offering any different interpretation, let alone support for one, the government  
 24 suggests that Mr. Andrade has misinterpreted the Butina documents. But even if there were  
 25

26 <sup>9</sup> The Supplemental Opposition (docket # 158 at 3:3) also accuses Mr. Andrade of "paint[ing] a misleading picture  
 27 of . . . the case against [him]," but nowhere supports this accusation by identifying anything in Mr. Andrade's  
 28 description of the facts that was misleading, let alone provides any support for such an accusation.

<sup>10</sup> See, e.g. Ex. 44 at 18 (referencing the "idiotic regulation war"),

1 support for a different reading, differences of interpretation cannot be a basis for withholding  
2 discovery. Cf. *United States v. Ruiz*, 59 F.3d 1151 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995) (defendant entitled to jury  
3 instruction relating to a theory of defense for which there is any foundation in the evidence, and  
4 the court is obligated to view the evidence in the light most favorable to the accused).

5 The government refers to the Butina documents as “20 pages of material, which include a  
6 scant 14 lines of handwritten notes.” Docket # 158 at 3:26-27, or just a “sales pitch” with  
7 “generic marketing . . . nothing more, nothing less, and certainly nothing material to the  
8 defense.” *Id.* at 4:6-8. They are far more than that. Found in Butina’s home, with handwritten  
9 notes attributed to Erickson by the government, the 20 pages relate to AML Bitcoin, and the  
10 strategies for and uses and value of Mr. Andrade’s technology. Exh. 44 at 1, 2-4, and 7-8.  
11 Depending on how they are counted, there are 14-16 lines of handwritten notes on the first page  
12 relating to a discussion about AML Bitcoin at Abramoff’s home, and – omitted in the  
13 government’s description -- most of the remaining pages are extensively underlined, with  
14 additional handwritten notes added. They show at a minimum that Erickson (or whomever wrote  
15 the notes) went into depth to understand AML Bitcoin’s technology, strategies, and to discuss  
16 them – including de-regulation -- with Abramoff, without Mr. Andrade’s knowledge. They add  
17 to considerable other evidence suggesting that Abramoff using Blockchain Entertainment, the  
18 television show about Mr. Andrade’s business, Landfair Capital, and other entities, for his  
19 schemes about Mr. Andrade’s business that were adverse to Mr. Andrade, at the same time that  
20 Abramoff was orchestrating the conduct for which Mr. Andrade has been charged.

21 Levin appears connected to the Abramoff-Erickson-Butina scheme for Mr. Andrade’s  
22 company through at least the development and funding of the television show. In his proffer  
23 interview, Abramoff reluctantly gave the government an indication that he had discussed Mr.  
24 Andrade’s cryptocurrency business with Levin, *see* Exhibit 11 at 10, and that they had discussed  
25 working together to change cryptocurrency policy, *id.*, likely a reference to the deregulation  
26 referenced in the Butina documents that was antithetical to Mr. Andrade’s plans for the business.  
27 Levin was soliciting funding for Abramoff, and with respect to some aspect of Levin’s work with  
28

1 Abramoff, Levin asked that his involvement “not be exposed,” and asked the same for another  
2 person from Eastern Europe who was solicited for funding. Exh. 34 at 8. In mid-July 2018  
3 Abramoff sent Levin an invoice for “cryptocurrency consulting,” which the government views as  
4 a reference to the “Blockchain Entertainment” television show and the foreign funding discussed  
5 by Abramoff and Levin. Exh. 11 at 11. In his proffer, Abramoff claimed that he could not  
6 explain the “cryptocurrency” reference on the Landfair invoice sent to Levin, Exh. 34 at 16, and  
7 in a previous interview, he falsely claimed not to know how -- or whether -- Erickson knew  
8 about AML Bitcoin. Ex. 21 (58:58 – 59:50).

9 All of this suggests that Levin will have communications, and not just with Abramoff,  
10 that are material to preparing Mr. Andrade’s defense. For example, information about the  
11 television show supposedly designed to market AML Bitcoin was sent to Levin from Abramoff,  
12 Exh. 11 at 12, and evidence suggests that Levin is the link to raising the money for the TV  
13 show. Exh. 11 at 10. The Butina documents include material describing the technique of using  
14 television as propaganda to sway the public to pressure the government against the institutions of  
15 government regulations of cryptocurrency. *Id.* at 18. Levin received a copy of the television  
16 show promo reel, and only his device will have a full record of with whom he shared it and why.  
17 Levin was also involved with Landfair: Abramoff billed him through that entity (exactly what for  
18 is unknown), but after further discussion Abramoff lowered his price and suggested he bill  
19 through Blockchain to make it look “cleaner” – which sounds a lot like money laundering.

20 Levin’s communications -- with others, in addition to with Abramoff -- will help the  
21 defense learn, among other things, whether the television show was aimed at gutting the value of  
22 Mr. Andrade’s company, in favor of Abramoff, Levin, and Levin’s connections who were  
23 helping to fund the show. If the purpose was to gut the company, the data on the device will also  
24 help show why Levin took that course, and regardless of what his purpose was, his device may  
25 also have information explaining why Levin was trying to hide the involvement of investors –  
26 was it because they were investing in the show to launder money – as well as why Abramoff hid,

1 or tried to diminish, Levin's involvement from the FBI in his proffer, and why he and Abramoff,  
2 and others were doing all this behind Mr. Andrade's back.

3 Getting insight on these questions is material to the preparation of Mr. Andrade's  
4 defense.<sup>11</sup> Given that the government had opportunity but offered no answer to Mr. Andrade's  
5 reasons why there should be no AEO limitation, the devices should be produced without one.

### 6 **3. The Government Should Be Required to Produce Extraction and Other** 7 **Information from Erickson's Phone**

8 Mr. Andrade's Supplemental Memorandum demonstrated that the prosecution team has  
9 known for many years of Erickson's connection to this case, and that Mr. Andrade was asking  
10 about Erickson, but the government apparently destroyed his device anyway. In its  
11 Supplemental Opposition, the government did not contest these propositions. It ignores this  
12 unquestioned violation of the government's "duty to preserve discoverable evidence." *United*  
13 *States v. Grammatikos*, 633 F.2d 1013, 1019 (2d Cir. 1980). Discovery into how and why this  
14 happened, and who is responsible, is necessary to determine if sanctions are appropriate.

15 Instead of acknowledging and addressing these issues, the government chose to write  
16 about the fact that Erickson (like Butina) was convicted of an offense that did not involve AML  
17 Bitcoin, and the claim that the FBI investigation of Erickson had nothing to do with  
18 cryptocurrency. Neither of these statements tell the Court anything about what was (or is) on his  
19 (or Butina's) device, and the facts described above show that Erickson was likely to have  
20 communications about Mr. Andrade's business (and about why he was doing what he was doing  
21 to Mr. Andrade's business behind his back).

22 Production of all records that the government has about why it destroyed Erickson's  
23 device is made even more important by the shifting statements the government has made about  
24 the device. For example, as the government acknowledged in its brief filed on March 22: "The

25 \_\_\_\_\_  
26 <sup>11</sup> The government's suggestion that any communications between Levin and Abramoff would be on Abramoff's  
27 device is inadequate both for the reasons in the text showing that communications between Levin and others are  
28 material, but also because the suggestion about the Levin-Abramoff communications themselves is unreliable. For  
example, there is no assurance that Abramoff did not have additional devices that he had previously discarded, or  
that he kept in locations not searched by the government.

1 government previously informed the defense that the extractions themselves were destroyed in  
 2 March 2022, but further investigation has revealed simply that March 2022 is when the casefile  
 3 was formally closed. The team has not located any records regarding when those extractions  
 4 were destroyed.”). Docket # 158, Govt. Supp. Opp filed March 22, 2023, at 6:13-16.

5 Regardless of the nature of his conviction, the circumstances described above suggest  
 6 that Erickson had communications on his device that are material to preparing Mr. Andrade’s  
 7 defense – communications that apparently are now lost to the defense, due to the fault of the  
 8 government. The government should not be permitted to withhold any information it has about  
 9 how and why this happened, who was responsible for it, and why the prosecution team did  
 10 nothing to stop it.

#### 11 **4. Documents Relating to the Searches and Seizures of the Devices of Levin, 12 Erickson, and Butina.**

13 Mr. Andrade described above in the discussion of Levin’s devices the reasons why  
 14 information collected by the government about Butina, Erickson and Levin is material to  
 15 preparing his defense. Although the defense has explained the materiality of this information to  
 16 the government in meet-and-confers, the Supplemental Opposition does not respond to those  
 17 explanations, and instead uses only a narrow lens based on the nature of the offenses the  
 18 government investigated, without consideration of how whatever it gathered could cast light on  
 19 the reasons explaining, and nature of, the complicity of Butina, Erickson and Levin in  
 20 Abramoff’s schemes. For example, regardless of what offense the government was  
 21 investigating, the information it collected and presented as part of affidavits could identify  
 22 people who may have been investors, reasons to launder funds, potential uses (or misuses) of Mr.  
 23 Andrade’s biometric identification patents, as well exchanges of money that could be, through  
 24 their timing or their participants, related to Mr. Andrade’s companies even if not specifically  
 25 identified as such.

26 As with Mr. Andrade’s discovery of the Butina documents -- located only after the audio  
 27 version of Abramoff’s interview was reviewed by Mr. Andrade’s counsel as there was no  
 28

1 reference to them in the report of the interview -- the defense is entitled to inspect this material  
2 (and potentially exculpatory) information without reliance on the government's characterization  
3 of it. The government has identified no burden to its production of the items requested with  
4 respect to Erickson or Levin, nor any privilege or classification issues preventing disclosure of  
5 these materials, and the Court should therefore order their production.

6 As for information relating to Butina, two days before it filed its supplemental  
7 opposition, the government provided over 1.7 gigabytes of discovery electronically, and has  
8 arranged to send more than 500 gigabytes of additional electronic discovery as soon as it can be  
9 copied onto media sufficient to contain it physically. The defense has begun, but (needless to  
10 say) has not yet completed, review of the 1.7 gigabytes of discovery. The material reviewed to  
11 date includes reports, evidence summaries, and photographs related to the government's seizure  
12 of the Butina documents, some of which is helpful to the defense. Although defense counsel is  
13 unable to determine with certainty at this time whether the production about the Butina  
14 documents is sufficient, the Court could defer ruling on the remaining Butina-related requests  
15 until defense counsel completes its inspection of the newly produced, and soon-to-be produced,  
16 discovery.

##### 17 **5. Any statements of Butina, Levin and Erickson Should Be Produced**

18 Mr. Andrade seeks discovery relevant to his theories of defense, not just information that  
19 refers to him or his company AML Bitcoin. As is more fully explained in subparts 2 and 4  
20 above, this requires production of information that might assist in identifying investors, reasons  
21 to launder funds, potential uses (or misuses) of Mr. Andrade's biometric identification patents,  
22 well exchanges of money that could be, through their timing or their participants, related to Mr.  
23 Andrade's companies even if not specifically identified as such, as well as other information  
24 helpful in developing or rejecting a defense.

25 Rather than provide that information, the government merely grants access to specific  
26 references to AML Bitcoin or Mr. Andrade. Needless to say, this is a sliver of even the specific  
27 terms that would be relevant, such as the television show, Blockchain, Landfair, and specific  
28

1 patents owned by Mr. Andrade, such as his unique biometric identification verification patent.<sup>12</sup>  
 2 Even more importantly, an approach based on even those expanded terms misses all sorts of  
 3 information material to the preparation of the defense, such as matters described in the paragraph  
 4 above.

5 Without relying on any claim of privilege or confidentiality, the government has rejected  
 6 Mr. Andrade's discovery request for statements made by Erickson, Butina, or Levin. They have  
 7 not identified a burden in producing this material. The sliver of an inquiry it made is far from  
 8 sufficient. The statements requested should be ordered to be produced.

### 9 CONCLUSION

10 For the reasons set forth above and in all the prior pleadings and exhibits provided to the  
 11 Court on this matter, and based on upcoming argument, Mr. Andrade respectfully requests that  
 12 the Court order the government to produce the five categories of requests discussed above.

13  
 14 Respectfully submitted

15 DATED: March 27, 2023

16 By: /s/ Michael J. Shepard  
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 21 ROWLAND MARCUS ANDRADE  
 22  
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26 \_\_\_\_\_  
 27 <sup>12</sup> The government's reference to searches for "AML Bitcoin" overlooks the fact that the patent held by Mr.  
 28 Andrade was applied for and assigned to an entity known as the "Fintech Fund Family Limited Partnership." See Exhibit 44 at 2.